

Focus on Fifth

Weekly News for Holmes Fifth-Grade Families

News and Events in the 5th Grade

March 7, 2016

www.op97.org

Important Dates:

March 12th- International Taste of Holmes!

March 22 - Elementary Instrumental Music Festival

March 18 - Completed Science Fair experiments and collected data

March 19 - Young Scientists Conference

News

Journalist Visit

Today, 4th and 5th grade students had the opportunity to meet Marc Lacey, New York Times national news editor and former foreign correspondent. Mr. Lacey spoke to students about his many experiences covering the news both in the US and abroad. Students will soon begin working on opinion writing, and this was a wonderful opportunity to get tips from an expert in the field.

International Taste of Holmes: *Saturday, March 12th, 4pm - 6pm in the Multipurpose Room*

Join us for a celebration of our school's cultural diversity with a night of fashion, food, and fun! The evening consists of *tasting* foods from around the world made by Holmes families, followed by a fashion showcase and a kid's dance party toward the end of the evening.

- bring a dish to share!
- participate in the fashion show! (with or without your kiddos...)
- help with set-up or clean-up!

Sign up today! Questions? Please contact Jessica Rapey at jnj0292@yahoo.com.

The Elementary Instrumental Music Festival will be held at OPRF High School on Tuesday, March 22, 2016 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. This event features EVERY 4th & 5th grade student who is in band or orchestra, over 700 students!

Students will be bused to the high school on Monday, March 21 or Tuesday, March 22 for an hour long rehearsal. Please click the link below and fill out the permission slip to give your student permission to attend. The specific dates and times are included in the e-mail.

[Permission for Festival Rehearsals - CLICK HERE](#)

PLEASE MAKE SURE TO CLICK SUBMIT ON THE FINAL SCREEN!!!

We are looking for parents to ride the buses and assist with rehearsal supervision, and there is a space to mark that on the permission link.

If you have further questions, please contact your student's band or orchestra teacher directly.

Thank you!

Gabby Rosenblum - Beye BAND

Vince Greco - Holmes, Irving, Mann BAND

Sandra Korelc - Beye, Holmes, Longfellow, Whittier ORCHESTRA

Brian Shannon - Hatch, Whittier BAND

Ericka Shannon - Hatch, Irving, Lincoln, Mann ORCHESTRA

Amy Vogt - Lincoln, Longfellow BAND

D97 Young Scientists Conference!

Oak Park District 97 presents...The **2016 Young Scientists Conference!** It will return after a 3-year hiatus on Saturday, March 19, 9 AM - 10:30AM & 11AM -12:30PM at Horace Mann School. The Young Scientists Conference provides D97 students in grades K-8 an opportunity to interact with scientists in hands-on workshops. Workshops are led by professionals in all fields of science. Many scientists also volunteer throughout the year in educational partnerships with D97 schools through Oak Park Education Foundation's Science Alliance Program. Students are assigned to one 90-minute workshop based on grade level. Students must register and are selected from homerooms by lottery to help assure that all schools and grades are represented. Participants will be notified by late February. Please register at <http://www.op97.org/ysc2016/>. Registration ends February 10. If you have any questions, please email youngscientists@op97.org.

Food Pantry Donations

The first grade Daisy Girl Scout Troop is collecting items to donate to the Oak Park Food Pantry. Items include shampoo, soap, toothpaste and toothbrushes. We are also asking for "birthday kits" that can include cake mix, frosting and candles. These items are greatly appreciated by families in need. We have placed a colorful box in front of the office and will be accepting donations through March 7.

Thank you for your consideration!

Daisy Troop #45231

Typing Practice

Students can log on to Typing Training from home to practice keyboarding skills. The Typing Training program is accessible from the District's website, and students should begin practicing keyboarding skills at home. The link is: <http://www.op97.org/technology/Custom-Typing.cfm>

Specials- www.holmesspecials.blogspot.com

Art

Artist statements due to Ms. Jones before your next art class. Place them in the folder that she shared with you for your art class on Google Drive.

~Ms. Jones (kjones@op97.org)

Music

Assignments were due last week. I will not be in the classroom Monday and Tuesday. Students will be playing music games with the substitute teacher. When I return students can meet with me on Thursday from 11:45-12:15 if they want to turn in their missing assignments (though they will be marked tardy) If you have any questions please email me at akaria@op97.org.

--Mrs. Karia

Chorus

We are now practicing for our District Festival. The permission slips were sent through email this week. If you do not receive one by this weekend email me at akaria@op97.org. We will also be performing at the Chicago Wolves game on Saturday April 16th--save the date!

Spanish

We have completed our IMovies on each of our interpretation of Juan el Bombero. Now we are making new stories!. To check for any further updates visit my [blog](#). Or email me at afavela@op97.org.

Library, Reading Olympics

Congratulations to Tej Menon, Ezra Plotkin, and Roman Patazopoulos on their win at the district level! This is the **third** time in a row a Holmes team has won at the district level. Let's see if we can keep up our winning streak at this year's **Extreme Round**, Thursday, April 21. The Holmes competition will be the previous week. Any team wishing to participate should have their forms in to me this Wednesday. <http://www.op97.org/holmes/mediacenter/Reading-Olympics.cfm>

Library

We will be starting a research project this week. Students will be researching a country of their choice, writing a narrative from the point of view of a student in that country, and making a movie that highlights a "day in the life..." in that country. We will be using the CultureGrams database through the OPPL [Homework Help](#) page. While the majority of the project will be done in the library, students may wish to access the databases at home. To do so, students will need an OPPL card and PIN. Don't forget to email me with any questions! mmaneck@op97.org

Physical Education

Reading/Literature

This week, students will be working with our RI.3 standard, in which they will explain how reasons and evidence in a text support a writer's claim. Students will be acting as contest judges to review argumentative articles that were submitted to the NY Times.

Please make sure there is a parent or guardian checking, and initialing, students' reading logs each night!

Writing

Our writing time will be spent working on an expository writing piece about a great thinker. Students will be using research methods used for other essays to apply to this one.

Math

In math this week, students will be determining the area of rectangles with fractional side lengths. We will begin by tiling rectangles with unit squares, and then relate tiling to an area model and partial products multiplication. Our objective will be to be able to apply the distributive property to multiplication of mixed numbers. On Wednesday, students will have a take-home assessment task involving finding the area of a rectangle with fractional side lengths. On Friday, students will take part 2 of the unit assessment. The assessment will cover addition, subtraction and multiplication of fractions and mixed numbers. We will review in class on Thursday.

Holmes School is one of over 1,100 schools in the Chicago area participating in the Khan Academy Learnstorm challenge. Participating 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students earn points for mastering math skills and also for persevering with difficult tasks. Please encourage your child to practice his/her math at home using Khan Academy.

Science

In science this week, we will be discussing chemical and physical reactions. The students will be conducting an experiment with phenol red solution, calcium chloride, and baking soda to see what kind of reaction releases heat. **The students should be completed with their Science Fair experiments at home and have their collected data by Friday, March 18th.**

Social Studies

On Monday we have a fabulous guest speaker, Mark Lacey, a weekend editor of the New York Times. He will give us an overview of his job and what it takes to be a journalist!

This week we will also continue to learn how the original 13 colonies formed. We will begin by studying the colonies by region: the New England, Middle, and Southern colonies. As we do this, we will consider the colonies' climate, natural resources, freedom of religion, interaction with native people, and jobs.

Word Study

This week, we will work within Unit 3 Lesson 14 of our vocabulary curriculum, which focuses on the Latin base *sol* and the Greek base *mon(o)*, meaning "alone, only, one." Students will have word work for this lesson due on Friday.

Visit the **Holmes Digital Backpack** - <http://www.op97.org/holmes/digitalbackpack/>

We're on the Web!

Visit us at: <http://holmes5thgrade.wikispaces.com/>

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